



Antoinette at Community College of Allegheny County
Pathway to Success in Healthcare Grant
Pittsburgh, PA

A single mother rises up to start a new chapter in her life.



Antoinette and her family have faced many challenges in the last fifteen years. She suffered the loss of her home and the passing of close family members. She was a single mother, with nine daughters and no place to live. Much of the next decade was spent working hard to keep her family afloat.

Antoinette has a master's degree in social work, but lack of licensure capped her earning potential. She spent time as a drug and alcohol counselor and as a daycare worker. Antoinette always loved helping families overcome challenges in their lives. Now, it was her turn.

Antoinette had two teenage daughters, one with special needs, and two grandchildren living with her. She knew she wanted to start her own business, and began researching what additional experience and education she would need to do so. She happened upon HPOG and knew that it was her chance to succeed.

In the summer of 2017, Antoinette was accepted into the [HPOG Pathway to Success in Healthcare Grant program](#) at the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC). The program provided her with daycare for her grandchildren, transportation, uniforms, tuition, and books. She started her training in phlebotomy where her love for talking to patients grew. She believes that good conversation can take the mind off the uneasy process of having lab work done. After completing her coursework, she gained employment with the Allegheny Health Network (AHN) as a phlebotomist, earning \$12.93 an hour.

Antoinette's journey with HPOG didn't stop there. She is on track to earn a Medical Billing and Coding Certification and begin training as a Medical Assistant. She still wants to start her own business, but now has other HPOG graduates in mind.

“With all the education I am receiving and the help of the HPOG staff at CCAC, I hope to one day start my own business opening a drug and alcohol testing lab and hire other HPOG graduates. I am so grateful for this opportunity.”

This success story was self-identified by the grantee and information contained in this document was provided by the grantee.